

Subject: All CPF E-mail – Feb 05 BEST Newsletter

Sent: Friday, 11 Feb 05

The purpose of this E-mail is to forward the Feb 05 Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST) Newsletter. (The newsletter can be found on the web at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/newsletters.htm>.)

Of particular importance are articles advising the following information:

- Air Force-serviced employees in foreign areas will now contact BEST by first dialing the AT&T Direct Access Number for the country they are in, then the new "up-front" Air Force Customer Service Center toll-free phone number: 800-616-3775. The old BEST phone numbers, 800-997-2378 and local 210-527-2378, will be turned off for all customers, both Stateside and overseas, on 31 Mar 05.
- Public Law 108-469, signed into law 21 Dec 04, eliminates TSP open seasons for regular TSP contributions as well as the restrictions on contribution elections which are tied to open seasons. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board is implementing this law effective 1 Jul 05. As a result, the last TSP open season will take place 15 Apr - 30 Jun 05.

Subscriber notification was released via E-mail 11 Feb 05. The newsletter can be viewed in Adobe Acrobat format at http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/Newsletters/BEST_Newsletter_Feb_05.pdf and is also available as Fax Document No. 6027 through the BEST phone system. In addition, it (and other newsletters and bulletins) may be found on the main Newsletter page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/newsletters.htm>.

Employees with questions regarding any of the articles in this newsletter may reach a BEST counselor by calling 1-800-616-3775 (press 2 for civilian, then 2 again for benefits and entitlements, and follow the prompts). Employees located in foreign areas will dial the toll-free AT&T Direct Access Number for the country in which located, then 800-616-3775. Hearing impaired employees may reach a counselor by calling TDD 1-800-382-0893, or commercial 210-565-2276 if within the San Antonio, Texas area. Benefits counselors are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Central Time.

If you have electronic capability, please forward the newsletter to all directorates/organizations at your base and ask that they forward it to all levels within their organization. As always, we appreciate your support.

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Division Chief, Benefits and Entitlements
Air Force Personnel Center